

407

**DENBY & CUMBERWORTH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1918.

Duncan Alistair MacGregor,

M.B. Univ. Edin., C.M., etc.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PENISTONE :

J. H. WOOD, THE DON PRESS.

1919.

Denby and Cumberworth Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending December 31st, 1918.

To the Denby and Cumberworth Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st, 1918.

The deaths at all ages, actually registered in the District, amount to forty-three. The death-rate, 12.8, is higher than that of 1917, when it was 9.1. Three persons resident in the District died outside the District, so the death-rate, including these, is 13.0. The death-rate for England and Wales is 17.6.

Three children have died under one year of age. The infant death-rate, per 1000 births registered, is 54.5.

Fifty-five births have been registered. The birth-rate, 14.6, is lower than that of 1917, when it was 17.0, with sixty-five births. None of the births is illegitimate.

As regards the causes of death, I find that three persons have died of whooping cough, ten of influenza, one of erysipelas, four of cancer, two of rheumatic fever, seven of organic heart disease, six of bronchitis, three of pneumonia, one of Bright's disease, and one of parturition apart from puerperal fever.

The Local Government Board still consider that many of the details, usually inserted in the Annual Report, should be omitted, and that the Report should be confined to a record of what has taken place during the year.

Water Supply. There have been no developments. The supply is of excellent quality, and all the populous parts are supplied. There was a shortage, however, in Denby during the summer months, and steps should be taken to prevent this occurring again.

Drainage and Sewerage. The District, in great part, has sewers and outfall works. The developments during the year are 250 yards 6-in. sewer at Heator, and 320 yards 6-in. sewer at Dry Hill.

As regards **Closet Accommodation**, there are in the District eight privies with open middens, 638 with covered middens, and 84 water closets. During the year one w.c. was constructed for a new house. It is desirable that the abolition of privies should steadily be pressed and ashbins substituted for privy ashpits.

The Scavenging has been well attended to, the total annual cost being £141 14s. 1d. This seems high, but the explanation is, no doubt, the great increase in both team and manual labour.

As regards **Nuisance Inspections**, 158 inspections have been made. Forty-one informal notices have been served and 28 complied with. One statutory notice was served and complied with.

The **Cowsheds** have been kept, on the whole, fairly well. There are 63 in the District, and 67 inspections of them have been made. There are 58 registered milk sellers, and no instance of disease, attributed to milk, occurred during the year.

There are three registered **Slaughter-houses**—all satisfactory.

The health of the District has not been good owing to the great prevalence of Influenza during the year. The disease was specially in evidence in July and August, and again towards the close of the year, necessitating the closing of the schools. As already stated,

Influenza has caused ten deaths, which cannot be called excessive when one considers the great number of people affected. Many circumstances combined to favour the prevalence of the disease, and to delay the convalescence of the patients. The weather, for example, even in July, was cold and raw. Then, the greatest difficulty was experienced in getting suitable nourishment for the patients, such things as beef tea, chicken broth, and such like were not to be got, and, in some places, there was a shortage of Bovril, milk, and eggs. Lastly, the resisting power of the people was undoubtedly reduced, owing, no doubt, to the "rationing" which had been in vogue for so long.

Under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, ten cases were notified to me, viz., two cases of measles, one of pulmonary tuberculosis, one of puerperal sapraemia, two of scarlet fever, two of enteric fever, and two of diphtheria. Everything possible was, of course, done to prevent the spread of these diseases.

In reference to **Housing**, as will be seen from the summary in Table "C," 30 houses were inspected under the Act, and in the summary will also be seen the general character of the defects found. The subject is one which soon must have prompt attention given to it. During the War, for obvious reasons, matters in this connection were more or less in abeyance. There is a great scarcity of houses, notably in Denby Dale. Only one house has been built during the year.

Copies of this Report have been sent to the Local Government Board, and to the County Council.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

DUNCAN ALISTAIR MACGREGOR,

M.B. Univ. Edin. and C.M.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Denby Dale,

April 8th, 1919.

TABLE C, 1918.

Denby & Cumberworth Urban Sanitary District.

WATER SUPPLY—

Any developments during 1918—No.

Any insufficiency, and where—No, except shortage at Denby during the summer.

Any unsatisfactory quality, and where—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—

Any developments during 1918—Yes; 250 yards 6-inch sewer at Heator and 320 yards 6-inch sewer at Dry Hill.

Developments still needed—

Want of sewers—

Improvement of defective sewers—

Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells—No.

Are there any sink-wastes still needing disconnection—No.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

No. of Privies with open middens—8. No. of Pail or Tub Closets—0.

No. of Privies with covered middens—638; No. of Water Closets—84; Waste Water Closets—0.

No. of Privies re-constructed during 1918—(a) as W.C.'s, 0;
(b) other, 0

No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1918—
(a) W.C.'s, 0 (b) other, 0

No. of Closets constructed in 1918 for new houses—(a) W.C.'s, 1;
(b) other, 0

SCAVENGING—

Any change during 1918?—No.

How is refuse disposed of (a) Destructor—No. (b) Tips—Some.
(c) Farmers—Mostly. (d) Total annual cost—£141 14s. 1d.

Is there any inadequacy and where?—No.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1918—158.

Informal Notices served—41. Complied with—28

Statutory Notices served—1. Complied with—1

Total number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1917—11 At close of 1918—20. Reported during 1918—56. Abated during 1918—49

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.—

Common Lodging Houses—No. in District, 0 ; total No. of Inspections made, ; general condition—

Canal Boats—0

Knackers' Yards—0

Offensive Trades—No. in District, 0 ; No. on Register, 0 ; Total No. of Inspections made, 0 ; General Condition,

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades, *e g.*, Fish-frying, Maggot-breeding, etc.—No.

SCHOOLS—

No. of Visits to Schools—Several.

Action taken—

MILK SUPPLY—

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts—None. No. adulterated—None.

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination—None.

What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cows—M.O.H. to call in expert, if desired.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1918—No.

No. of Cowkeepers in district—58. No. registered—58

No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers—20. No. who are Purveyors only—38 Total No. registered—58

Total No. of Cowsheds—63 ; No. of Inspections in 1918—67 ; general condition—Fair.

Approx. No. of Milch Cows in District—248 Any insufficiency in Milk Supply—No, except during the Influenza epidemic, in places.

Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders—

Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent—No.

OTHER FOODS—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Food & Drugs Acts—None. No. adulterated—

No. of seizures of unsound food—2. Kind and quality—Hams and Bacon. No. of Prosecutions—None.

No. of Slaughter Houses—3; No. registered—3; kind and condition—Modern, satisfactory.

No. of Prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs, 0; (b) Unsound Food, 0; (c) *re* Slaughter Houses, 0.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—

Any Smoke Nuisance, and where—No.

No. of Smoke observations taken—0. No. of cautions—
Legal notices— Summonses—

ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Any adopted during 1918—None.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS—

Any adopted during 1918—None.

Are any other Bye-laws needed—No.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1918—Influenza.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list—No.

Any influences threatening the health of the District—No.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.

Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS—

Inspection of Patient's home and workshop—Yes.

Examination for contacts—Yes. Disinfection—Yes.

Distribution of Advice Leaflets?—None.

Action *re* Spitting?—Yes.

Shelters provided—When required. Is sputum examined—Yes.

Tuberculous Dispensaries.—Any suggestions—No.

BACTERIOLOGY—

Is County Laboratory utilized—Yes. Any suggestions—No.

INFANTILE MORTALITY—

What organised effort to control it?—None.

Any suggestions—No.

Any Baby Clinic, Baby's Welcome, or Mothers' League?—No.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1918—None.

VITAL STATISTICS—

BIRTHS during 1918—Males, 24 ; Females, 31 ; Total, 55.

Number illegitimate included in the above—0.

Number of Still Births (not included)—Nil.

DEATHS DURING 1918—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the district, without any correction—43

(2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males 19, Females 27, Total 46.

Number of uncertified deaths included in the above—Nil.

MORTUARIES—

What mortuary accommodation (a) for accidents—None.

(b) for infectious cases other than at Hospital—None.

SANITARY STAFF—

What is the present Annual Salary of M.O.H.—£14.

Name of Sanitary Inspector—Tom Shield, M.Inst.M.Cy E. (temporary).

Annual Salary as Inspector—£30.

Other appointments held—Surveyor and Waterworks Engineer.

Salary for such other appointments—£135 4s. 0d.

Any Assistants—No.

Is Staff sufficient—Yes.

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary Requirements of District.
Suggestions of Medical Officer of Health, and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries.

Summary of Housing Work during 1918.

No. of Houses inspected under Sec. 17 of 1909 Act—30.

No. found unfit for habitation—None

No. of representations made with a view to making Closing Orders—1

No. of Closing Orders made—Nil.

No. of Houses with defects remedied without Closing Orders—1

No. of Houses made fit after Closing Orders made—Nil.

General character of defects found—Defective walls, roofs, closets, ash-places, ventilation, windows, drains, spouts, yard paving, dampness, floors, insufficient closet accommodation, unscheduled defects.

Obstructive Buildings.—Any building represented by M.O.H. under Sec. 38 (1) of 1890 Act?—Nil.

Result of action (if any)—

Any building represented by inhabitant householders under Sec. 38 (2)—Nil.

Re-construction Schemes.—Have L.A. directed any to be prepared under Sec. 39 of 1890 Act—No.

Unfit Houses.—Any complaints by inhabitant householders under Sec. 31 of 1890 Act—No.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 17 (7)?—Nil. Any action in respect of such rooms—

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where?—Denby Dale.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where?—No.

No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1918?—None.

Any special activity in house building, and where?—No.

Number of new houses built during 1918 (a) Working-class dwellings—1.
(b) Other—0.

Any working class dwellings erected during 1918 by Sanitary Authority—No.

Are Sanitary Authority contemplating erection of working-class dwellings?—No.

Town Planning.

Any scheme prepared during 1918?—None.

Any scheme contemplated? If so, for what area?—None.

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910?—Tom Shield, M.Inst.M.Cy.E., Denby Dale.